

Crow Lane Landfill Update—September 6, 2013

This update is being provided by MassDEP concerning the closure activities that have been undertaken at the Crow Lane Landfill over the last two months and those that are currently ongoing. Please send your questions, comments and suggestions to:
crowlane.information@massmail.state.ma.us.

Closure Activities, including Third-Party Evaluation of the Landfill Gas System and Flare

On July 31, 2013, MassDEP, New Ventures and its consultant, SITEC Environmental (Mike Quatromoni, Engineer of Record), met to discuss New Ventures' plans and schedule for addressing the remaining items that need to be completed to close the landfill. The following is a summary of key landfill closure activities that have occurred since that meeting:

- On or around August 5, 2013, New Ventures had the landfill mowed, to allow for closer inspection of the condition of the vegetative cap that was installed over the flexible membrane liner (FML) layer.
- New Ventures engaged Blue Granite Environmental Consultants to conduct an evaluation of the landfill gas collection system and flare.
- On August 19, 2013 MassDEP met at the landfill with New Ventures, SITEC and Blue Granite.
 - A joint and comprehensive site walkover was conducted.
 - Upon inspection, the landfill surface was in generally good condition, though several small areas were identified for minor repairs (such as a few areas where some supplemental loam and re-seeding was needed, some minor erosion areas to be addressed).
 - SITEC discussed with New Ventures staff several activities that needed to be done, such as some corrective re-grading of the stone drainage area that runs along the edge of the haul road, to ensure that storm water flows as designed. SITEC oversaw this work.
 - The scope of work for the landfill gas system evaluation was discussed.
 - Based on Blue Granite's availability, the evaluation of the landfill gas system was scheduled to begin on August 29, 2013, with one or more additional dates to be scheduled in September.
- On August 29, 2013 MassDEP met at the landfill with New Ventures, SITEC and Blue Granite.
 - MassDEP inspected the landfill and confirmed that the areas of erosions identified at the August 19, 2013 site visit were repaired.

- MassDEP also inspected the areas that SITEC had identified for some minor regrading and/or repair. MassDEP's inspection documented that those repairs had been done.
- MassDEP will re-inspect the landfill and cap throughout the fall. We want to confirm that the vegetation has been re-established and that the repairs have been successful.
- Blue Granite began its evaluation of the landfill gas system and the flare, as planned.
- Several factors were identified that may contribute to why the flare has been shutting down frequently but the final assessment and recommendations for repair cannot be provided until Blue Granite is able to complete its inspection of the components of the flare as well as review relevant documentation, data, etc.
- Next Tuesday, September 10, 2013, New Ventures, SITEC, MassDEP and Shaw will be at the Landfill when Blue Granite continues its inspection and assessment of the landfill gas system and flare.

Current Status of Flare Operations

Yesterday, September 5, 2013, MassDEP convened a technical discussion with New Ventures representatives, SITEC and Blue Granite regarding the flare, in light of the flare shutting down and based on the inspection of the flare to date. Blue Granite has determined that, as currently operating, if the flame goes out, the flare is shutting down but not as quickly as it should. In light of the foregoing, New Ventures has committed to doing the following:

- Starting today, Friday September 6, 2013, New Ventures has begun to cycle the flare on and off, through next Tuesday's continuation of the flare inspection. (The practice of cycling a landfill gas flare on and off has been and is currently used at other landfills to ensure that such flares are running on an appropriate quality and quantity of landfill gas and for other landfill-specific reasons).
- Cycling the flare off and on will minimize the potential for landfill gas buildup within the landfill, while ensuring that, when running, the flare is being closely monitored by New Ventures staff.
- The flare will be started by New Ventures personnel each morning (Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday) and run until approximately 12:00 noon. New Ventures personnel will remain onsite to monitor the flare's operation. New Ventures' staff will also monitor the landfill to determine if any odors are observed at the landfill.
- MassDEP and its consultant Shaw Environmental will continue to monitor the landfill during this interim period of flare operation, and will visit the landfill daily.
- At Blue Granite's recommendation, New Ventures will order a new cellular pack, which will provide immediate notice if the flare shuts down.

- New Ventures is also working with Blue Granite to identify, purchase and install appropriate replacement parts to ensure immediate shutoff if the flame goes out.

Based on Tuesday's inspection, next steps and appropriate interim measures will be re-evaluated.

Department Oversight

The Department and Shaw personnel are currently monitoring the landfill on a daily basis. MassDEP and/or Shaw personnel will be at the Landfill today (Friday), tomorrow, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. MassDEP and Shaw will also be onsite on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 for the continued inspection and evaluation of the landfill gas system and flare by Blue Granite.

MassDEP has been communicating directly with Mayor Holaday, Senator O'Connor-Ives and Representative Costello on a regular basis to inform them of progress on the landfill closure process. MassDEP will send an additional update next week regarding New Ventures' closure activities.